



Date: March 18, 2004
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LEWISTOWN--The Bureau of Land Management is seeking nominations to five seats on its Central Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC).

The council is a 15-member citizen advisory group that closely involves citizens with public resource issues, decisions and management. The RAC is organized by three categories that evenly distribute participation among various interests. Category 1 consists of livestock, timber, oil and gas, rights of way and outfitting representatives as well as other commercial interests in public lands. Category 2 includes representatives of state and national environmental organizations, dispersed recreation and historical interests. Category 3 includes elected officials, state employees, Native American Tribes and the public-at-large.

This year the BLM is seeking nominations to one opening in Category 1, two in Category 2, and two in Category 3.

Council members are selected by the Secretary of the Interior and are appointed for a 3-year term. RAC members are not paid; however they do receive per diem for travel expenses related to RAC activities. This council meets about four times per year at various locations throughout north central Montana.

“This council works in an advisory capacity and has proven to be very effective. They’ve addressed a variety of public land and resource issues and do an excellent job of working through the consensus process and making management recommendations, said Dave Mari, BLM’s Lewistown Field Manager.

This council considers public land issues across much of north central Montana (from Lewistown north to the Canadian boarder and from the Rocky Mountain Front east to North Dakota) and the BLM is very interested in having RAC members from throughout this area.

To be nominated for one of these seats, an individual needs to submit a brief nomination form and letters of support from his or her peers. These nominations are due by April 19, and should be sent to Dave Mari, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 1160, Airport Road, Lewistown, MT 59457.

Nomination forms are available at local BLM offices or by calling Craig Flentie at 538-1943.

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